Location of Mount K-2

280. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the editorial 'Peaks Go Higher' appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' of 11th April, 1985 in which it has been stated that Mount K-2 falls in Pakistan;

(b) whether Government have accepted the claim of Pakistan on the part of Kashmir now under illegal occupation;

(c) if not, whether the Editor and Proprietor of the 'Hindustan Times' have been asked to apologize and publish the apology in the paper; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. The whole of the territory of the State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. Mount K-2 is located in that area of Jammu and Kashmir, which is presently under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. The error was brought to the notice of the newspaper.

Outcome of the Indo-Pak. Ministerial Level Talks

281. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) What is the outcome of the last round of Indo-Pak. ministerial level talks held recently in Delhi;

(b) Whether the issue of opening up of Rajasthan side of the border in the Jaisalmer area was taken up, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the next round of talks is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) The salient aspects of the Second Session of the Indo-Pak. Joint Commission held in Delhi from July 2 to 4 are:—(i) the signing of an agreement on cooperation in agricultural research; (ii) consideration of the draft text for a Cultural Agreement; (iii) waiver of the requirement of Police reporting in respect of bonafide businessmen and holders of transit visas; (iv) finalisation of through railway booking facilities between designated railway stations with effect from 1st Oct., 1985; (v) agreement on setting up of a working group for cooperation in the field of planning, to be preceded by seminar in Islamabad on the same subject; (vi) agreement on exchange of information to check the illegal trafficking in narcotics; and (vii) exchange of Radio correspondents.

(b) India reiterated the need to reopen the Khokhrapar-Munabao checkpost in order to facilitate travel between India and Pakistan. Pakistan expressed its inability to agree to the Indian proposal, for the time being.

(c) The Third meeting of the Indo-Pak. Joint Commission will be held in Islamabad in 1986. Meanwhile, the four sub-commissions will meet before the end of this year, to review the progress.

Introduction of District Planning

282. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce the concept of district planning during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether functioning relationship between the districts and States has been worked out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The need for decentralisation of planning has been emphasized from plan to plan and the concept of district planning which was commended to

the State Governments as early as 1969 is proposed to be vigorously operationalised during the 7th Plan;

(b) The District Planning Bodies are to prepare the Plans for the Districts and forward the Plans to the State Planning Bodies|State Planning Departments for being taken into account while formulating the State Plans. The actual functional relationship between the District Planning Bodies and the State Planning Bodies will, however, have to be worked out in detail by each State Government, taking into account the state of its readiness for decentralisation and in the light of the recommendations made by the Working Group on District Planning, copies of which have already been sent to all the State Governments.

Selection of Standby Airports for International Flights

283. SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee has been appointed by Government to select airports as stand by airports for international flights and international carriers;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) what are the places selected for providing such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c) The Government had appointed a Committee inter-alia to identify some domestic airports for development of international operations with a view to reduce pressure on Bombay Airport. The Committee has recommended development of facilities at some domestic airports for the operation of limited international flights. In his connection, Government have ordered a survey of the traffic potential and suitability of certain airports for being developed for international operations. The question of providing facilities at the airports will be decided after the survey is completed.

Setting up of Statutory Development Boards

284. SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) What further steps have been taken by his Ministry to set up statutory development boards under Article 371(2) of the Constitution in pursuance of the Resolution passed by Maharashtra Legislative recommending for the formation of such boards unanimously on 26th July, 1984; and

(b) what are the difficulties encountered in setting up of the said boards?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra have been requested to send a suitable draft scheme for the establishment of the proposed boards. This is awaited from the State Government.

Manufacture of large main frame Computers

285. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to manufacture large main frame computors being extensively used in the country;

(b) whether the Electronics Corporation of India has been asked to initiate the manufacturing activity with foreign technology in this regard; and